

ROLLER RAGE

"THE WORLD ON ROLLER SKATES"

FEBRUARY, 1945

15c

ROLLER DERBY
NEWS & GOSSIP

•

'ROUND THE
ROLLER RINKS

•

QUESTIONS &
ANSWERS

•

INTIMATE
BIOGRAPHIES

•

CARTOONS! FACTS!
GOSSIP!

•

PICTURES
FROM EVERYWHERE



GENE GAMMON



**to a
Derby
Marine**

The Marines should be proud to have a boy like him
A boy who pleased the crowd—who skated with such vim.
He's out there fighting now—to help a bigger team
To bring back peaceful living—to ruin Hirohito's scheme.
He'll do his share, and in a while—when the war is won
We'll welcome back Jack Cummings to the Derby's top-
most rung.

Doris Berz—Buffalo, New York

THE INSIDE TRACK

A MONTHLY COLUMN
OF EDITORIAL NOTES
AND COMMENTS

There is something about the sportsmanship, clean living and general attitude of the Derby skaters that makes them heroes. Teamwork. It's an essential thing so far as the Roller Derby is concerned. And there's a bigger fight going on right now that requires teamwork, too. Surely the Derbyites now in the armed forces are PROving their sportsmanship and teamwork in the fine records they've piled-up . . . records that are as much a tribute to the Roller Derby sport as to the individuals who play in it.

There is Bill Hinkens, for instance—now Sgt. William T. Hinkens, Field Artilleryman. You know the story, don't you? He received a Soldiers' Medal. It sounds simple in the telling. Three men were swept far out to sea, and they were exhausted from battling the current futilely. Bill saw their predicament, and without regard for his own personal safety, dove into the water with a rope tied to his wrist and brought two of the soldiers to shore. Despite his own exhaustion, he dove into the water again, and rescued the remaining soldier. That's something we can all be proud of, because all of you fans, and all of the other Derbyites had a hand in making Sgt. William T. Hinkens the hero he is today.

Bill isn't the only Derbyite sporting ribbons. Corp. Jack Cummings of the U. S. Marine Corps wears the Presidential Citation as well as other stars on his uniform. He saw three years of action in the Pacific, and on his recent furlough, spent some time at the Coliseum. In fact, he acted as coach for the St. Louis squad. Everybody was happy to see Jack back again and looking so well.

You ought to see Bob Brink. He's a Sergeant in the Marine Air Corps, and when he made his appearance at the Coliseum during the last Chicago meet, you could almost hear the feminine hearts start palpitating. Sgt. Brink has been flying Dive Bombers. Wait'll those gals in North Carolina get a look at him!

Joe McMillan, M/M 2/c is in the hospital at Oakland, California. He was injured when his sub docked somewhere in the Pacific. As soon as he gets out of the hospital, he has a 30-day furlough in store for him.

S/Sgt. Al Allison of the Paratroopers has made six jumps already and is getting ready for another in his training school. He's been overseas 25 months. Jimmy Dedmon is another former skater with the paratroopers. Right now, he's in the Navy hospital in Oakland, California, wounded in action.

We didn't mean to turn the Inside Track into a report from our men in Service, but it gives you a feeling of pride to know what the former Derbyites are doing. And why shouldn't it when you realize that the Roller Derby is the babe of sport, and has already collected under its wings skaters with real sportsmanship to whom the whole world can point with pride.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

Temporarily RolleRage is being published only intermittently, instead of on a regular monthly schedule, because of paper shortages and other difficulties. "Skipped" issues will in no way effect your subscription — you will still receive the full number of copies which you originally subscribed for. The full 12 month schedule will be resumed as soon as possible.

THE PUBLISHERS

THIS MONTH'S COVER

One of the Derby's most popular skaters, and one-time holder of the quarter-mile record, Gene Gammon. 6-footer Gene weighs 185 lbs., has brown hair and blue eyes, has a medical discharge from the Marines.

ROLLERAGE MAGAZINE

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Personalities



1



2



3



5



7



4



6



8

1. A really smooth trio, slightly dented by Uncle Sam. Billy Bogash, Mary Youpelle and Julian Illies, now with the U. S. Army.
2. Family portrait of the Buddy Atkinsons. Bobby Johnstone (Mrs. Atkinson) is in the process of making a comeback.
3. Two Derby veterans talk it over. Gene Gammon smiles for the birdie, Jack Wilson frowns.
4. Ah-ah, Mary—we'll tell Elmer! Here Mary Youpelle gets "chummy" with Martin Oliver.
5. Dressed just like people—and beaming about it—are Russ Schalk and Billy Bogash.
6. In there ready for the fight, and pretty as a picture is lovely Georgeana Kemp.
7. An up-and-coming skater who's got what it takes to bounce you off the track if she wants to—Evalyn Karan.
8. Vivian Johnson, posing prettily like the shy little Miss that she certainly isn't!

ROLLING AROUND WITH JOANE LEMKE

There must be something to this business of being a Derby-ite. Skaters who are now enjoying home life after years of Roller Derby participation have raised some beautiful children. Wes Aronson and Kitty Nehls, for instance, now Mr. and Mrs., of course, have a beautiful baby girl named Carol.

Remember Johnny Rosasco? He's the proud papa of 3 children, and doing very well for himself in Coral Gables, Florida. Grace Freid, married to former skater Chuck Hansen, now in Service, has a beautiful daughter. Joe Nygra, married to Jean Vizena are in the 3-children class too. Gertie School, married to Wells Sloniger, former referee, are in the 2-children class, a boy and a girl. George Sloninger, former unit manager, is the beaming parent of a girl and boy . . . Kay Carney, married to Eddie Rager lives in Cincinnati with their baby girl. Jerry Luther married to Bud Talbot, former construction manager now in Service in Italy has a young son, and Mary Fabain is the mother of a beautiful girl. Sorry if I missed any of you skaters who are now enjoying home life. If I did, drop me a line and we'll see that you get "honorable mention" in another RolleRage issue.

Of course, there are plenty of skaters who take their children with them and still continue skating . . . Annis Jensen and Russ Baker, for instance, proud parents of a bouncing baby girl named Frances . . . Buddy Atkin-

son and Bobby Johnstone with a boy almost as big as his dad . . . Billy Bogash with the apple-of-his-eye, Billy Junior . . . and of course there's Ma Bogash who says she has the most beautiful baby of all—Billy Bogash! What do YOU think about it, girls?

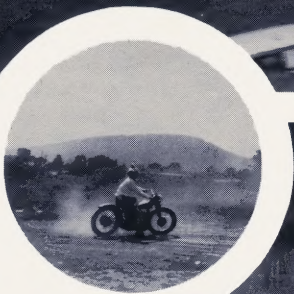
Carl Payne has been doing a fine job of skating since he received his Honorable Medical Discharge from the U. S. Army. Carl was in service 24 months. Eddie Snider, former Roller Derby announcer, is now with the U.S. Army in Italy. Also advance man Tex Swan is now with an Army somewhere in the Pacific. Elmer Anderson is in the Air Corps somewhere in Italy—our boys are really getting around, aren't they?

Peanuts Patateau, former skater, is expecting a little skater in the very near future. Peanuts is married to Walter Taylor, now in the Navy and stationed near San Francisco. Pop Bogash took a week's vacation to watch Ma skate the final week of the Chicago meet. A swell threesome, the Bogash family—Ma, Pop and Billy. Mrs. Erdman, mother of Red Erdman, former skater, dropped in to say hello during the Chicago race. Red is now in the U.S. Navy, but his location is a military secret.

No secret, though, were the races held during "Herald-American" night at the Chicago Coliseum. The Herald-American newspaper carriers took the track and really had a time of it.



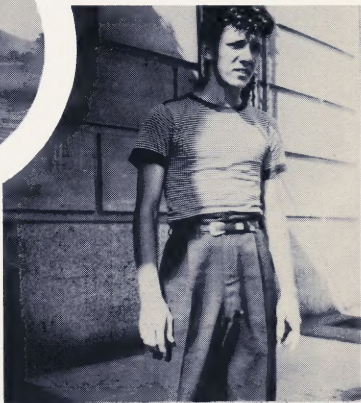
Jack Wilson



(Top) There goes Jack Wilson, leading the pack as usual! When somebody starts a jam, you can lay odds that it's Jack.

(Insert) There he is, scooting around, enjoying his favorite hobby, motorcycling. When motorcycle racing lost Jack, it was the Roller Derby's gain!

(Right) And here he is, tousled-hair, frown and all. A rare picture of Jack Wilson when he's just standing still.



GOOD MAN IN A JAM!

THE STORY OF JACK WILSON

★ It was the last night of the meet in Chicago. Trying desperately to score another point, the Chicago team was in there pitching. It didn't look as if they'd make it. Then somebody started a jam, and off they went to score another point. The crowd went wild—it was Jack Wilson starting the jam! Jack Wilson, doing it again!

This shy, handsome lad, just two years with the babe of sport behind him, received the plaudits of the multitude! And it wasn't the first time the crowd went wild when he started a jam. And it wouldn't be the last time, either, because Derby fans from coast to coast know Jack Wilson for what he is—a fine all-around skater whose specialty is jamming.

Jack Wilson took up roller skating two years ago when he was all of 16 years old. He skated around the various rinks in Chattanooga for six months or so. Skating, to Jack, was just a hobby. This serious, intense youngster planned on being a motorcycle racer, and he was determined that nothing would stand in his way. When war came, however, he knew he'd have to abandon his plans, temporarily, and Mother and Father Wilson heaved a great sigh of relief.

Then came the most thrilling day in Jack Wilson's life. He saw his first Roller Derby in his hometown, Chattanooga, Tenn. Jack got right up to the rails and watched the skaters whizzing past like lightening. Here was a brand new sport—something just as exciting as motorcycle racing! Maybe more so! "Gosh," he said, "I'll bet I could do that!"

He tried out for the Derby before the team left Chattanooga. Tommy Atkinson thought he had possibilities, and said so. But when the Derby left Tennessee, they left Jack Wilson behind. He was disconsolate, but when the skaters got to Oklahoma City a month later, the Derby management sent for him on Tommy's recommendation!

Full of pep and enthusiasm and a real desire to make good, Jack rushed out to Oklahoma City and has been with the Derby ever since. He is a fine, all-around skater, but jamming is his specialty, and "There goes Jack Wilson again," is a familiar cry around the banked track.

Jack has had several back injuries, but no broken bones, and he has his fingers crossed about getting any. According to Jack, Billy Bogash is "an all-around swell fellow, and the best skater I've ever seen."

One thing the other skaters like about Jack, besides his fine skating, swell disposition and his determination—when anything has to be repaired, give it to Jack! He loves anything in mechanics and has made it, in fact, his hobby. He'll still be interested in motorcycles, but the Derby is so much in his blood that he won't give it up to be a motorcycle racer now. His mother and father both like the Derby, but they'd still like to have their only child back in Chattanooga with them.

Jack has been too busy the past couple of years to bother much about girls. Not that he's against the idea, exactly, but he just hasn't had time for them. But give him another year or so, and he'll change his mind!

Fight!

Male or female, when a Derbyite gets mad, those fists fly! It doesn't matter who's fighting who in these pictures, because sooner or later, EVERY Derby skater fights SOMEBODY!



The girls have their way of fighting—biting, scratching, kicking and hair-pulling, and in the top picture, hair-pulling is winning by a fist-ful. The boys have a system all their own—they just toss the offender over the rail!

BIRTHDAYS

Joyce Bullock	Feb. 4
Marilyn Bullock	Feb. 4
Betty Cloonan	Feb. 8
Joane Lempke	Feb. 8
Marge Clifford	Feb. 10
Jack Cummings	Feb. 16
Alicia Gaidas	Feb. 17
Jock McGing	Feb. 18
Darlene McKamey	Feb. 21
Margaret Mehill	Feb. 22
C. C. McWilliams	Feb. 23
Joe Nygra	Feb. 25
Muscles Stampley	Feb. 26
Mike Melnick	Mar. 1
Fitz Fitzpatrick	Mar. 1
Ma Bogash	Mar. 3
Grace Fried	Mar. 4
Katie King	Mar. 6
Hank Melander	Mar. 7
Mary Youpelle	Mar. 17
Gene Young	Mar. 21
Jean Christner	Mar. 23

POET'S CORNER

TO BILLY BOGASH

He's always up there, scoring high
He doesn't skate—what he does is fly!

He zooms along with ease and charm—

To his opponents, he's quite an alarm.

To the front of the pack, he skates like a flash

This wonderful skater, Billy Bogash.
They try to block him over the rail

But Bill's too smart for this kind of tale.

Bogash weaves, and blocks with ease

Knocks his opponent to his knees.
The crowd is cheering—Bill has scored

H'ray for Bogash—he gets my award!

Ruth deVore,
76 Germania,
San Francisco, Cal.

DERBY DAZE

BY AUSTY DOWDELL



This particular corner has a "reserved" sign on it as a welcome home to Army veterans Carl Payne and Pat Murray. Pat has been in there pitching for a couple of months, and is really going strong, not only with the skates, but with the pipes as well. In case you've forgotten, Pat is a fine singer. Carl "Hands" Payne, husky skating star, is now back in action with the Derby after 26 months in the U.S. Army. Just a couple of weeks after he received his H.M.D., Carl was back to his first love, The Roller Derby.

Let's see what's in our V-Mail division. Remember Tex Swan? He was former advance man for the Roller Derby, but Uncle Sam has first claim on his time right now. Tex is with an Army show . . . Joe McMillan is out in the Pacific aboard a submarine. Joe writes that this is his last trip before he receives a furlough after a couple of years under water. Joe is anxious to see the Roller Derby and all his old pals. And we'll be glad to see Sailor McMillan, too! . . . Don Pararella of the U. S. Army dropped in on the Derby during the Louisville race. Don was on leave, and he skated the last two nights of the series. Pararella seems to improve more every time he takes the track . . . Jimmy Dedmon is in a hospital in Oakland, California. Former Derby-ite, Jimmy is now a paratrooper and was injured in action somewhere across the big pond. Jule Illies, husky speedster, will soon be joining our V-mail department. He's just begun wearing a uniform of the U. S. Marine Corps.

Stork Club Department: Remember Peanuts Patareau? She's a former skater, married to Walter Taylor, now a member of the U. S. Navy. There will be a little Taylor skater making a personal appearance any minute now. Billy Bogash Jr., and Buddy Atkinson

Jr. were caught arguing as to which is the better skater, Pop Bogash or Pop Atkinson. Then little Francis Baker, daughter of Russ Baker, chimed in to say that HER pop is best. So the discussion ended. Billy and Buddy are learning young the impossibility of arguing with a female!

Here are some tid-bits from the Louisville meet. The sensation was the dance presented by Bill Bogash and Buddy Atkinson during the skaters Jamboree. They had the people rolling in the aisles. Jack Walker tickled the guitar, driving the staff wild until they dropped a coin in the guitar box. What a racket!

Francis Brook and Buddy Atkinson were presented gifts by their sponsors, "The Kay Jewelry Co." in Louisville, and were they beaming! Russ Baker and Billy Bogash received shoulder injuries that would've kept a lot of people in bed, yet those two fellows finished the Louisville race. They've really got what it takes.

Welcome back, Jean Bensch. Jean is a former skating champion, and will be again, or I miss my guess. Even hubby Frank Early, former jockey, has the skating-bug these days.

They say that tiny person Vera Minenko is seen with so often is jockey Smothers.

Mary "Pocahontas" Youpelle is doing a fine bit of skating on her comeback trail. In fact, Mary seems to be better than ever before. She's the wife of Elmer Anderson who is having a grand time in Rome. Norman Fitzpatrick, a newcomer to the Roller Derby is doing a nice bit of skating. Another lad doing alright for himself is Martin Oliver.



ROLLER DERBY HONOR ROLL

ROLLER DERBY SKATERS AND
PERSONNEL NOW SERVING IN
U. S. ARMED FORCES

★ DON SHORLEY ★ AUBREY "RED" WILLIS (Missing in Action)

- ★ MAJOR WILLIAM FEEMAN
- ★ LIEUTENANT HUGH HOWARD
- ★ LIEUTENANT BOOTS LARSON
- ★ LIEUTENANT JOE CROWLEY
- ★ LIEUTENANT ELMER ANDERSON
- ★ LIEUTENANT WILLIAM MEY
- ★ CAPTAIN RAY JACOBY

- ★ AL ALLISON
- ★ HOWARD ANDRICK
- ★ JIMMIE ANGERAMI
- ★ VIRGINIA ANTONITIS
- ★ EDDIE BEGLEY
- ★ LEROY BERNADINE
- ★ CLETUS BIRCH
- ★ BOB BRINK
- ★ BUCK BUCKLI
- ★ JACK BULLOCK
- ★ FUZZY CALVANESO
- ★ AL CASSELL
- ★ LEONARD CHENAULT
- ★ DAVE COLE
- ★ MARGE CLIFFORD
- ★ GEORGE CROWDER
- ★ BILL CUMMINGS
- ★ JACK CUMMINGS
- ★ JOE DAY
- ★ CHARLES DAVIS
- ★ JIMMIE DEDMON
- ★ JOE DOLLER
- ★ RED ERDMAN
- ★ PHIL FABIAN
- ★ EDDIE FETTER
- ★ LES FINEBERG
- ★ DON FLANNERY
- ★ ALICIA GAIDAS
- ★ TODDY GEFFINGER
- ★ CHRIS GEORGIAN
- ★ BILL HILL
- ★ BILL HINKENS
- ★ MAX HOLLAND
- ★ LES ISREAL
- ★ DOROTHY ISREAL
- ★ RAY JANDREAU

- ★ JIMMIE JENKE
- ★ FRANKIE JENSEN
- ★ TED JOHNSON
- ★ MORRIS LOFTUS
- ★ TOMMY LETTS
- ★ ERIK LEVY
- ★ JERRY McCANN
- ★ CLARK McDERMITT
- ★ JACK McCUE
- ★ JOE McMILLAN
- ★ DICK MECKES
- ★ MIKE MELNICK
- ★ MARGARET MEHILL
- ★ WILLIE MEY
- ★ RED MURRAY
- ★ BILL MEYERS
- ★ DOMINICK PARANELLI
- ★ CARL PAYNE
- ★ JOE POWELL
- ★ CHARLES QUINLAN
- ★ JOHN RAMSEY
- ★ BILL REYNOLDS
- ★ SILVER RICH
- ★ ED RITTENHOUSE
- ★ ROY ROCK
- ★ HAZEL ROOP
- ★ ED SAUNDERS
- ★ EDDIE SHORT
- ★ HARRY SIMON
- ★ LOU STASIUK
- ★ SWEDE ULLMAN
- ★ STEVE VERBIK
- ★ BERT WALL
- ★ JACK WEIDMAN
- ★ WILTON WENKER
- ★ GENE YOUNG

ROLLER DERBY SKATERS IN ACTION

- CARL PAYNE
- BUDDY ATKINSON
- CHARLIE SAUNDERS
- JACK WILSON
- BILL WOODBURY
- BILLY BOGASH
- RUSS BAKER
- TED CARILLO
- GENE GAMMON
- NORM FITZPATRICK
- RUSS SCHALK
- JACK WALKER
- EDDIE DOVE
- TOMMY DIMMICK
- VERA MINENKO
- FRANCES BROOKS
- ANNIS JENSEN
- MARY GARDNER
- GEORGEANNA KEMP
- EVALYN KARRAN
- MARY YOUPELLE
- FUZZY BOUCHEK
- VIVIAN JOHNSON
- JEAN BENSCH
- CLAIRE RICHTER
- JOAN LEMKE

ROLLER DERBY SCHEDULES

- ★ Fort Worth, Texas—Will Rogers Memorial Auditorium, Jan. 16
- ★ Houston, Texas—Sam Houston Coliseum, Feb. 23rd
- ★ Milwaukee, Wis.—Milwaukee Auditorium, March 15th
- ★ Chicago, Ill.—Coliseum, March 28th
- ★ Cleveland, Ohio—Arena—April 25th

PICTURES WANTED

RolleRage will be happy to print any pictures, cartoons or other material pertaining to roller skating which you care to submit. Photos can be of any size and for best reproduction should have a glossy finish. Address RolleRage Magazine, 20 E. Jackson Blvd., Chicago 4, Ill.



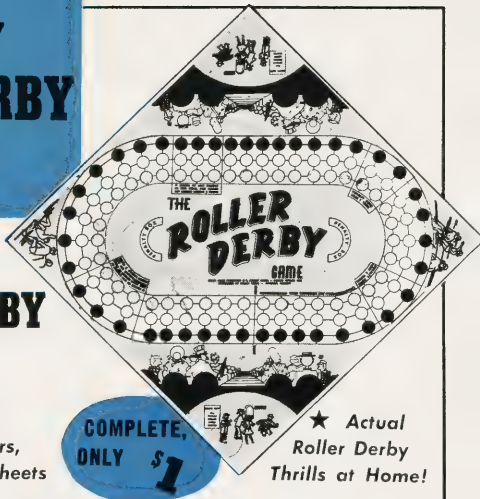
**ACTION . . .
CAMERA!**

RolleRage turns the tables by taking a picture of a couple of men taking a picture! While the newsreel men were very carefully posing a picture of a "spill," we caught THEM "in action." For REAL "spill" pictures, unposed, see pages 6 and 7.

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Questioneer

★ RolleRage regrets that it cannot answer all questions submitted because of a lack of space. Questions may be on any phase of roller skating and the Roller Derby, and as many questions as possible will be answered in each issue.

—THE EDITORS

QUESTION: Will you please send me all the available information about Derbyite Pat Murray? Marilee Browne—36 N. Roys Ave., Columbus, 4, Ohio.

ANSWER: "All" the information is a pretty big order for such a little bit of space! Pat Murray is 22 years old, married to skater Frances Brooks. He has an honorable discharge from the Army, is 5-6, brown hair, blue eyes and a nice singing voice.

QUESTION: A group of us want to join a Roller Derby Club. How do we go about it? Mary Fagan—3719 Pillsbury—Minneapolis, 6, Minn.

ANSWER: The publishing of this letter will undoubtedly prompt interested readers to get in touch with you.

QUESTION: What is the age required to join the Derby? Who will I have to see about a tryout? What is the nature of the tests? Are there any special skates required for speed skating? Jean Johnson—839 Alhambra Rd., Cleveland, 10, Ohio.

ANSWER: There is no age limit in joining the Derby. Skaters who are minors must have the written consent of parents or guardians. A regular test-routine is followed in tryouts, including speed, blocking, tackling. See the Unit Manager when the Derby comes to Cleveland. You do not have to worry about special skates.

QUESTION: Could you give me some information on Bob Satterfield? Height, weight, age, and if he's married? A Fan—Buffalo, New York.

ANSWER: Bob is 26 years old, weighs about 165 pounds, 5 ft. 7 in. tall, and is not married.

QUESTION: Has Buddy Atkinson returned to active competition? Rolle-Derby-Rite Club—654½ N. Sweetzer Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.

ANSWER: Yes. He skated in the Milwaukee meet, Chicago meet, and is continuing with the Derby tour as scheduled.

QUESTION: Will you please send me Pvt. Dominick Paraneli's address?

ANSWER: All mail to members of the Armed Forces may be sent to the Coliseum, 15th and Wabash, Chicago. It will be forwarded from there.

QUESTION: Is it true that Gene Gammon and Tillie Mudri are married? La Verne Kamholz—Buffalo, New York.

ANSWER: Yes, and they are expecting a little Gammon in March.

QUESTION: Does Mary Youpelle have any children? What about Jack Walker and Joan Lemke?—M. Haase.

ANSWER: None of them have children.

QUESTION: What has happened to Tommy Atkinson and Marilyn Bullock? A Fan—Buffalo, New York.

ANSWER: Tommy Atkinson is skating. Marilyn Bullock is taking care of her baby, and is not skating at the present time.

QUESTION: Is Katie King married to Dominick Paraneli? A Fan—Columbus, Ohio.

ANSWER: Not to our knowledge.

QUESTION: Is Monta Jean Kemp skating? A Kemp Fan—Buffalo, New York.

ANSWER: Yes.

QUESTION: Has the biography of Jean Bensch been published in RolleRage? Audrey Cotton, Minneapolis, Minn.

ANSWER: Not as yet. Look for it in an early issue.

QUESTION: Is Tommy Atkinson married? If so, to whom, and does he have any children? Diana Kerr, 707 Summit Ave., Minn., Minn.

ANSWER: Yes, he is married to Marge Evans, and they have a young son.

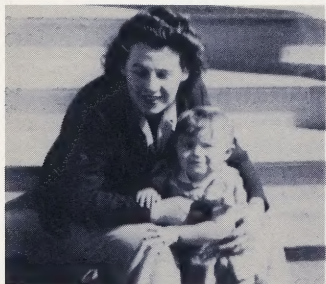
OH, baby!



Proud mother, Annis Jensen Baker, tries to get daughter Frances to look at the birdie.



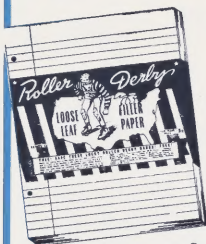
She not only looks, but the little tyke **LIKES** the limelight! Little Frances has all the earmarks of a great skater, in the family tradition!



With Aunt Sheila Jensen, it's a case of pure love as Frances clutches her Auntie, and Sheila clutches right back.

Boys! Girls!

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Milwaukee, Wisc

MAY I BUTT IN?

When someone says "That's using your head," they must mean the two skaters pictured above. They could be saying, "Lighting three cigarettes on a match isn't unlucky—it's unlikely." But what goes on between these two girls isn't dialogue—it's blood. One of the two will be butted off the banked Roller Derby track any minute!





Darwination

McCoy